

Art Unit: 1763

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephen J. Schwarz on 9/4/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. In Claims 18 and 21, ^{line 15} replace "highly acid" with "acid".
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2. Cancel Claims 25-29.
3. Replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract.

BF
10/15/07

Abstract: Process for protectively coating against aggressive liquids hydraulic microcircuits made in a resin, particularly for an ink jet printhead, consisting of: disposing of a silicon substrate comprising a sacrificial layer of copper, deposited on the substrate and defining the inner shape of the hydraulic microcircuits; depositing on top of the outer surface of the sacrificial layer, by means of an electrochemical process, at least one protective, metallic coating layer; applying on the sacrificial layer a non-photosensitive epoxy or polyamide resin, having a predetermined thickness and suitable for completely covering the sacrificial layer; effecting a polymerization of the resin to increase its mechanical resistance to mechanical and thermal stresses and performing a planarization of the outer surface of the resin, by means of a mechanical lapping and simultaneous chemical treatment; removing the sacrificial layer through a chemical etching in a highly acid bath; and depositing a metallic, protective layer on the outer surface of the resin through vacuum evaporation.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 18-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Prior Art of record, (See for example, U.S. Patent 5,332,594 to Bol) teach a method of forming hydraulic microcircuits comprising providing a silicon substrate covered by a plurality of metallic and dielectric layers, and also comprising a sacrificial metallic layer defining the inner shape of said hydraulic microcircuits; depositing on an outer surface of the sacrificial metallic layer, at least one protective coating layer having a predetermined thickness and completely covering the sacrificial layer; removing the